

CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

- 1 1. A computer readable medium having a program for automating the
2 life cycle of a software application, where the software application utilizes computing
3 resources distributed over a network, the program comprising logic configured to
4 perform the steps of:
5 creating a task list which describes how at least one stage in the life cycle is to
6 be performed; and
7 processing the task list by a process engine to perform at least one stage in the
8 life cycle,
9 wherein the process engine is integrated with a development environment,
10 where the development environment is used to develop the software application.
- 1 2. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the development
2 environment is an integrated development environment.
- 1 3. The computer readable medium of claim 2, wherein the integrated
2 development environment includes JBuilder.
- 1 4. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the process engine
2 includes Ant.
- 1 5. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the software
2 application utilizes computing resources through service providers connected to the
3 network.

1 6. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list is
2 stored in a text file.

1 7. The computer readable medium of claim 6, wherein the text file is an
2 XML file.

1 8. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list
2 includes a first task, wherein the first task packages into a single file all files needed
3 to run the software application.

1 9. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list
2 includes a second task, wherein the second task distributes the software application to
3 at least one remote computing resource.

1 10. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list
2 includes a third task, wherein the third task executes the software application on at
3 least one remote computing resource.

1 11. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list
2 includes a fourth task, wherein the fourth task collects results from at least one remote
3 computing resource.

1 12. The computer readable medium of claim 1, wherein the task list
2 includes a fifth task, wherein the fifth task removes the software application from at
3 least one remote computing resource.

1 13. A system for automating the life cycle of a software application, where
2 the software application utilizes computing resources distributed over a network, the
3 system comprising:

4 a task list editor configured to create a task list, where the task list describes
5 how at least one step in the life cycle is to be executed; and
6 a process engine operating on the task list to perform the at least one step in
7 the life cycle.

1 14. The system of claim 13, further comprising:
2 a development environment for developing the software application, where the
3 process engine is integrated with the development environment.

1 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the development environment is an
2 integrated development environment.

1 16. The system of claim 13, wherein the process engine is Ant.

1 17. The system of claim 13, wherein the software application utilizes
2 computing resources through service providers connected to the network.

1 18. The system of claim 13, wherein the task list is stored in a text file.

1 19. The system of claim 18 wherein the text file is an XML file.

1 20. The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a first task,
2 wherein the first task packages into a single file all files needed to run the software
3 application.

1 21. The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a second task,
2 wherein the second task distributes the software application to at least one remote
3 computing resource.

1 22. The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a third task,
2 wherein the third task executes the software application on at least one remote
3 computing resource.

1 23. The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a fourth task,
2 wherein the fourth task collects results from at least one remote computing resource.

1 24. The system of claim 13, wherein the task list includes a fifth task,
2 wherein the fifth task removes the software application from at least one remote
3 computing resource.

1 25. A system for automating the life cycle of a software application, where
2 the software application utilizes computing resources distributed over a network, the
3 system comprising:

4 creating logic operable to create a task list which describes how at least one
5 stage in the application life cycle is to be performed; and

6 processing logic responsive to the creating logic, operable to process the task
7 list to perform at least one stage in the application life cycle,

8 wherein the processing logic is integrated with a development environment,
9 wherein the development environment is used to develop the software application.

1 26. The system of claim 25, wherein the development environment is an
2 integrated development environment.

1 27. The system of claim 25, wherein the process engine is Ant.

1 28. The system of claim 25, wherein the software application utilizes
2 computing resources through service providers connected to the network.

- 1 29. The system of claim 25, wherein the task list is stored in a text file.
- 1 30. The system of claim 25, wherein the text file is an XML file.